

REMARKS

This Amendment is being submitted in preparation for an Examiner Interview that is currently scheduled for Friday, January 5, 2001. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 30-48 will be pending. Support for claim 48 can be found in original claim 1.

The Applicant intends to file further comments after the Interview to more fully address the final Office action mailed November 29, 2000. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withhold issuance of the next Office action until after such further comments have been submitted.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 22, 2000

Vincent M. Powers  
Vincent M. Powers  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No 36,246

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

Applied Biosystems  
850 Lincoln Centre Drive  
Foster City, California 94404  
TEL: 650-638-6492  
FAX: 650-638-6677